



2013

*Santenay Premier Cru
Beaurepaire*

APPELLATION AND VINEYARDS

The southernmost village within the Côte d'Or, Santenay's etymology probably derives from the Latin word "Sanctus," implying a place that was considered sacred even before the Christian era. Although recognized for its graceful Pinot Noirs, Santenay also produces intense Chardonnays of great depth and structure. In Old French, "repaire" suggests the meaning of return to one's own land and, by extension, a refuge or home. The Beaurepaire vineyard is located above the village of Santenay and has a soil composition of limestone and clay.

VINTAGE

After daunting weather problems in both 2011 and 2012, Burgundy growers were hoping for a reprieve in 2013. This was not to be. An exceptionally cool, wet spring resulted in floods and muddy vineyards throughout the region. Rain continued during flowering in June, and July hailstorms in the Côte de Beaune further reduced the fruit set and subsequent grape yields to historic lows. Biodynamically farmed grapes like those of Château de la Créée tended to ripen more fully than others, a crucial advantage in one of the longest Burgundy growing seasons on record. Despite early concern about the vintage, wine critics are now finding most 2013 Burgundies to be delightfully terroir-specific, with excellent suppleness and clarity of fruit.

TASTING NOTES

This wine shows excellent weight and freshness, with lovely notes of exotic fruits and apricot on the palate. The nose is very expressive, with notes of citrus and exotic fruits, fern, hazelnut and butter. The palate is smooth and stylish, with plenty of saline and mineral nuances in the lingering finish.